

## Finding Aid to the Grand Army of the Republic. John F. Reynolds Post No. 5 Records

### Grand Army of the Republic. John F. Reynolds Post No. 5 (Fargo, N.D.)

John F. Reynolds Post No. 5 Records, 1884-1923

.4 linear ft.

Collection number: Mss 1053

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### OVERVIEW

**Access:** The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

**Provenance:** Donated by Nancy Belangek, 1960; Descriptive Book presented by *The Forum* Library, 1979; Ritual book donated by Charles Kaim, 2016 (2016-058irs).

**Property rights:** The Institute for Regional Studies owns the property rights to this collection.

**Copyrights:** The Institute does not own the copyrights.

**Citation:** [Identification of item]. Grand Army of the Republic, John F. Reynolds Post No. 5 Records, MS 1053, Institute for Regional Studies, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

### HISTORY

The John F. Reynolds Post No. 44 was organized on February 22, 1884 in Fargo with 64 charter members. Lafayette Hadley had been instrumental in generating interest in such an organization in 1883. Horace Austin became the first Post Commander. The Post was named in honor of Major John F. Reynolds who was killed in action while in command of the First corps of the Army of the Potomac on the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg. Membership in the Corps of the Grand Army of the Republic was open to men who had fought in Union forces of the Civil War. With statehood in 1889, the Posts were renumbered with the Reynolds Post becoming Number 5. The Post had a membership of 287 at one

time but declined until its demise in the 1930's. Its last member was Col. John W. Carroll who died March 3, 1942.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The John F. Reynolds Post No. 5 records have been organized into two series: Meeting minutes & Financial Records, and Subject Files.

The [Meeting Minutes Series](#) covers only the period of 1898 to 1911 but are very complete for that period. The financial ledger covers the period 1898 to 1914. It includes records of the dues paid by each member as well as the general financial transactions of the Post.

The [Subject Files Series](#) includes miscellaneous papers to include lists of deceased members and those buried at Riverside Cemetery in Fargo, N.D.. The Descriptive Book Number 1 appears to be the earliest item in the collection. It lists 94 members of the post giving vital statistics, military service, and membership information, and sometimes date of death. The book has entries from the organization of the post in 1884 to 1902. There is also a 1923 financial statement, 1913 membership list, a sign-in register for the 1909 to 1912 North Dakota Encampments, and programs from the 1922 and 1923 encampments. The collection also contains a hard cover ritual book with the post name and number handwritten inside.

## BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Content
1/1	Historical material, and Finding aid
	<b>Meeting Minutes Series</b>
1/2	1898-1903
1/3	1903-1911
1/4	Financial ledger and cash book, 1898-1914
	<b>Subject Files Series</b>
1/5	Deceased members, 1885-1914
1/6	Descriptive Book No. 1, 1884-1902
1/7	Financial statement, 1923
1/8	Membership, 1913
1/9	Miscellaneous lists
1/10	Programs, 1922-1923
1/11	Register of Department Encampments, 1909-1912
1/12	Riverside Cemetery burial plot lists
1/13	Ritual book

